

T-215
Bridges (Hebron, Langdon)
Near St. Michaels
Private

Circa 1802; 1932

Bridges, known today as Langdon, was built by Daniel Lambdin sometime prior to 1804. The tax assessment of that year describes "Bridges Chance" as being improved by a "new brick dwelling with brick kitchen adjacent." In 1809 Lambdin devised the property to his daughters, Sarah Seth and Ann Winchester. The Seths took up residence here and renamed it Hebron after the biblical city south of Jerusalem. The original house, now the central section of a five-part composition, is a late-Georgian-style, two-story, three-bay brick structure. The main facade is laid in Flemish bond, and has a central entrance. Following Georgian architectural principals, the first-story windows are longer than those on the second story. A bold cornice runs along the roof line, and two large chimneys rise flush above the gable ends. In 1932 the Gillespie family of Pittsburgh converted the house into the present mansion through the addition of hyphens and wings. Today the house, grounds, and Seth family graveyard with its ornamental brick wall are in a good state of repair and well maintained.

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Talbot
TOWN Tilghman VICINITY Sherwood
STREET NO. Rt 33, .3 miles south of Sherwood
(east)
ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE dwelling
PRESENT OWNER Miss Mabel L. Gillespie
PRESENT USE dwelling
WALL CONSTRUCTION brick
NO. OF STORIES 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY T-2

T-215

2. NAME

LANGDON

2102 155204

DATE OR PERIOD 1749

STYLE Georgian

ARCHITECT

BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)

INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

Wilson, E.B., Maryland's Colonial Mansions,
H.S. Barnes & Co., New York, 1965, p. 69.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

морз

5/69

DATE OF RECORD

B. Sun
10.17.71

Langdon
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Langdon
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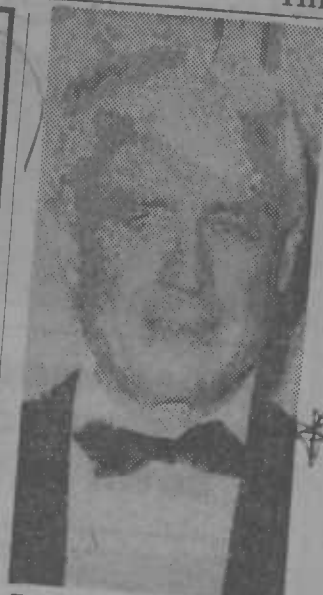
THE SUN, BALTIMORE, SUN

CATONSVILLE
DELIVERY

complete
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922-6362



THOMAS J. WATSON, JR.

IBM Head Buys Shore Mansion

Thomas J. Watson, Jr., former IBM chairman and head of the corporation's executive committee, has purchased an historic Eastern Shore estate in Talbot county near St. Michaels.

The property is "Langdon," an Eighteenth Century mansion enlarged in the 1930's by a member of the Mellon family of Pittsburgh and including about 243 acres of waterfront property near Sherwood, Md.

Mr. Watson paid the former owner, Dr. Alvin E. Strock, of Talbot county, \$675,000 for the estate, according to Horace Post, the executive's private secretary.

Langdon was advertised as an auction property by a Philadelphia firm in mid-summer, but was withdrawn from auction a few days prior to a scheduled public sale set for July 3 on the site.

No Firm Plans

The IBM executive has "no firm plans" at this time for the estate property, said Mr. Post, who added that Mr. Watson was attracted to the estate and bought it "before someone else did." Mr. Watson will retain his present home at Greenwich, Conn., the private secretary reported. He also has a summer home near North Haven, Maine., and a ski lodge near Stowe, Vt.

The central portion of the Eastern Shore estate was built in 1783 and was acquired by the Mellon family in 1929. Two wings were added to the central portion in 1932. The estate was the home of Miss Mabel L. Gillespie, Pittsburgh socialite.

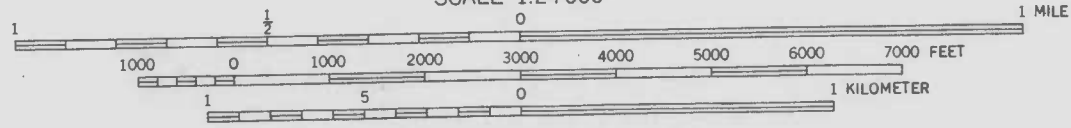
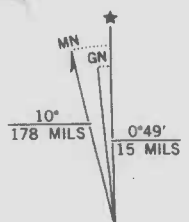
Langdon is about 2½ miles south of Wittman on the Tilgman Island road (Route 33) and includes about two miles of deep water frontage on Harris creek and Dun cove, plus a 226-foot docking pier.

Nearby is "Avalon," another Mellon estate on the Tilgman Island neck. It was built about 50 years ago by Andrew Mellon, the Pittsburgh financier and philanthropist.





T-215
Langdon
Tilghman Island Road (MD 33)
Sherwood, MD
Claiborne Quad, 1942, PR 1986



MAXIMUM ELEVATION 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1.1 FOOT